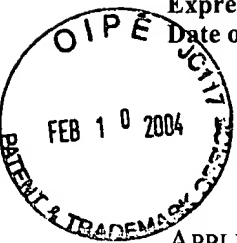


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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO AUGUST 11, 2003 OFFICE ACTION**

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.